

App. No. 10/603,493
Amendment Dated: December 22, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 22, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed August 22, 2006 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. The Office Action rejected Claims 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 1-22 are objected to because of informalities. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 1, 11-16 and 22 have been amended. No new matter has been added. For at least the following reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-22 are objected to because of informalities. In response, claims 1, 11, 16 and 22 have been amended to correct the informalities.

Claim Rejections

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. As suggested, Claims 11-15 have been amended to be computer-readable medium claims.

Claims 1-7 and 9-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yen et al. ("A Web-Based, Collaborative, Computer-Aided Sequential Control Design Tool", IEEE Control Systems Magazine, Vol. 23, No.2, April 2003, pp. 14-19)(hereinafter "Yen") in view of Lin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,980,211)(hereinafter "Lin"). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yen in view of Lin and Schmidt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,904,571)(hereinafter "Schmidt").

App. No. 10/603,493
Amendment Dated: December 22, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 22, 2006

With regard to Claims 1, 11, 16 and 22 the Office Action states that "Yen et al. disclose the establishing connection between the client and the server is part of the Web-based software design tool as further described on page 15, column 2, paragraphs 1-2 (see also Fig. 1); the displaying/choosing/modifying/analyzing of the schematic on the client is described on page 16 and illustrated in Fig.3, which allows the user to select/choose and place the circuit components and their wires (i.e., wiring component) to the desire location on the schematic as well as allowing the user to modify and re-simulate the schematic (i.e., analyze the modified schematic); thus making the wire components and the electrical component movable within the schematic as desired by the user/designer. However, Yen et al. failed to specifically teach that each endpoint of the wire may be independently moved. Lin et al. teach the use of endpoints or start points and their positions for defining interconnects or wirings, connecting the circuit component(s) in the schematic diagram in order to allow the schematic diagram to be edited and properly displayed (see col. 1, lines 32-54)." In response, the Applicants have amended to more clearly define the invention.

As amended, Claim 1 recites in part "analyzing the modified schematic using an electrical simulation and a thermal simulation; wherein the thermal simulation and the electrical simulation are performed on a computer that is different from the client." In contrast, none of the cited references teach performing thermal and electrical simulations on the modified schematic. Further, none of the references disclose performing the simulations on a device that is different from the client device. As such, Claim 1 is proposed to be allowable as amended. Independent Claims 11, 16 and 22 have been similarly amended and are proposed to be allowable for at least the same reasons.

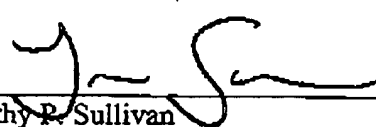
App. No. 10/603,493
Amendment Dated: December 22, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 22, 2006

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.



Timothy P. Sullivan
Registration No. 47,981
Direct Dial: 206.342.6254

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
206.342.6200

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE